

## **SR-12 Environmental Assessment Public Open Houses to Be Held**

The SR-12 Environmental Assessment is underway. The project limits extend from Escalante to Boulder. The project team will be holding two open houses for the public in mid-October. This will be an opportunity for the community and other interested parties to ask questions and give comments about the project. This will also be a chance to give the project team input on the issues and help brainstorm possible solutions for the corridor.



For complete details regarding the open houses, see the following:

### **Boulder Public Open House**

**When:** October 18, 2004, from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Boulder Town Hall  
351 North 100 East  
Boulder, Utah

### **Escalante Public Open House**

**When:** October 19, 2004, from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Escalante High School  
70 North 1 West  
Escalante, Utah



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For more information regarding the SR-12  
Environmental Assessment, please visit:

**[www.udot.utah.gov/sr-12](http://www.udot.utah.gov/sr-12)**

Or contact the public involvement team at:

**(801) 262-8700**  
**[sr-12@hwlochner.com](mailto:sr-12@hwlochner.com)**



## **SR-12 Environmental Assessment Context Sensitive Committee Formed & First Meeting Held**

The Context Sensitive Committee (CSC) for the SR-12 Environmental Assessment has been formed and the first meeting has been held. Based on previous Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) and other agency studies along SR-12, UDOT is conducting an Environmental Assessment (EA) along SR-12 from Escalante to Boulder. The purpose of this EA is to review specific transportation needs in the project area, assess the potential impacts, and determine if an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is needed. During the early planning stages of this assessment, UDOT has developed a committee of twelve individuals each representing a different organization and point of view of the SR-12 corridor.



The CSC held its first meeting on February 23, 2005, in Escalante, Utah. The committee, which includes representatives from the ranching community, bicycling community, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, Wild Utah Project, Garfield County School District, Garfield County Travel Council, Boulder Town, Escalante City, Escalante/Boulder Chamber of Commerce, Utah Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and the US Bureau of Land Management, has been formed to assist the project team in defining the context and setting of SR-12 and determining the needs of the corridor.



In order to ensure all interested communities and parties are kept informed of project developments the project team asked each committee member to communicate back and forth between the project team and the communities that they represent. This will make certain that an open dialogue between the project team and all interested parties is maintained. A summary of the topics discussed at the first CSC meeting will be posted on the project web site at [www.udot.utah.gov/sr-12](http://www.udot.utah.gov/sr-12).

In addition to the comments provided by the members of the CSC, the project team has received numerous comments from the general public to date. All comments that have been received have been reviewed and are being taken into consideration.

The SR-12 Project Team will conduct the next Context Sensitive Committee meeting in April. Prior to that meeting, open houses will be held for the general public to attend, meet the project team, and learn what was discussed at the first CSC meeting and what has been done on the SR-12 project to date. Exact times and locations for the upcoming open houses will be forthcoming.

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## S.R. 12 Environmental Assessment Open Houses Held

The Utah Department of Transportation, along with members of the project team, held two open houses on April 20<sup>th</sup> in Escalante and Boulder regarding State Route 12 (S.R. 12). The open houses allowed the general public to meet with UDOT representatives and project team members to discuss existing safety and roadway issues.

The open houses provided an opportunity for the public to comment on such issues as safety and aesthetics. Attendees were asked to identify specific areas of concern along the corridor on large project maps that were provided. The project team also asked the public to provide ideas they have for possible solutions to those concerns.



### S.R. 12 Project Web Site

The project web site has been updated to include:

- Information and presentation materials from the open houses
- A new comment form, which was also handed out at the open houses
- Project mapping showing the existing conditions of S.R. 12

These items, as well as additional project information, can be accessed on the project web site at [www.udot.utah.gov/sr-12](http://www.udot.utah.gov/sr-12).



### S.R. 12 Project Team Activities

As the S.R. 12 project continues to move forward, the project team will continue working on the following:

- Developing alternatives
- Completing the Purpose and Need Statement
- Determining the impacts of the project
- Preparing for Phase II of the study.

Phase II is scheduled to commence in September 2005 and will kickoff with additional public open houses in August. The future open houses will give the public an opportunity to comment on the project team's findings.

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